



marlboro county

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

The importance of broadband infrastructure to the economic recovery of our country is unquestioned. And all agree that we need broadband investment to ensure the future global competitiveness of South Carolina and our nation.

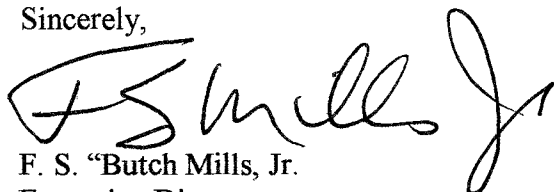
Unfortunately, your recent comments about new regulations and other constraints on the Internet—and particularly on wireless service—are counter to these truths. I am deeply concerned because a policy of network neutrality will limit investment in much needed infrastructure, stifle innovation and disadvantage consumers.

In South Carolina, broadband access and adoption have been growing dramatically in just the last few years thanks to a tremendous amount of private investment and the introduction of new technologies like faster wireless data service. Personal and business consumers in my state are taking advantage of these resources to energize their businesses and simplify their lives. Moreover, with companies competing to bring the best possible service to customers, broadband and wireless investment brings jobs to our local economies.

We work hard in South Carolina to create a business climate that encourages investment and new jobs. That means we understand the needs of businesses and how private capital is directed. I strongly urge you to consider growth and economic development when considering these unprecedented regulations of broadband service.

The Internet is working today and is growing for tomorrow. Changing course now would be a terrible mistake.

Sincerely,



F. S. "Butch Mills, Jr.
Executive Director